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Project A

30 April 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: ASPIN Briefing, 30 April 1969

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1. Today [ ] of the Intelligence Directorate briefed Messrs. [ ] regarding ASPIN. The following points of interest to the Support Directorate were covered:

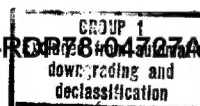
a. A Program Memorandum went to the BOB for FY 1970 approval of [ ] positions and \$600,000 for the design of an information processing system. This is an Agency project.

b. Within this \$600,000, the DD/I is to get \$450,000 for contractual services and salaries of the [ ] positions budgeted for by the DD/I. DD/S&T has budgeted for [ ] positions. The Office of Communications did not budget for the [ ] positions which the project contemplated; and this appears to have been initially considered but scooped up and rejected, perhaps inadvertently, in [ ] related exercises. Indications are that these budget needs were never made clear to the Office of Communications or the DD/S.

c. The approach to the project will involve the opposite of COINS in that rather than designing a system and then determining what goes into it, ASPIN will use analysts from DD/I and DD/S&T to determine what system is needed before any systems design occurs. Emphasis then will be on user needs. Mr. [ ] is to head up the group, and it is to be lodged in Mr. [ ] Planning Staff.

2. Following this meeting, I discussed the situation with [ ] who called me back in order to exact a promise that we would use the [ ] positions, if given us by Colonel White, precisely for ASPIN and not divert them to other needs. I assured him that this would be the case. I also called [ ] and discussed with [ ] the means for inserting these [ ] positions in the Office of Communications' FY 1971 Program.

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3. Later during the day, [ ] called and stated that he was in the midst of a ceiling exercise with Colonel White and that he was going to recommend that we be given [ ] positions for ASPIN for FY 1970 and FY 1971; and that we could use these positions as we saw fit; and that it would not be necessary to amend the FY 1971 Program Call response. I notified Mr. [ ] in the Office of Communications. I will continue to follow this.

JHP

PS-DD/S:JHP:bk [ ] (30 Apr 69)

Distribution:

- ✓ Orig - DD/S Subject
- 1 - DD/S Chrono
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DDI-704-69

Executive Registry

109-1583

14 MAR 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Director-Comptroller

SUBJECT : The Establishment of Project  
ASPIN (Automated Systems for  
Production of Intelligence)

1. The Agency's Program Memorandum for Information Processing and Exploitation (FY 1970-FY 1974) and the subsequent FY 1970 Budget provide some positions and \$600,000 for design studies of a Community Information Handling System with interconnected Agency data bases. This constitutes a partial response to NSAM 368 which requires the development of a detailed long range plan for a community system.

2. The task of implementing the Agency's program together with the majority of the positions and funds was assigned to the Directorate of Intelligence. The plan is to complete the system design in FY 1971 and to attain an initial operational capability in FY 1972.

3. Before we can participate effectively in the planning for a community system, we must determine what our needs are for automated information handling. I plan to take the following approach toward that objective:

- a. Study in detail the production process itself to ascertain which of its functions could be made more effective by the use of automated systems.
- b. Conduct an intensive review of the information processing effort and its role in the production of intelligence.

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- c. Develop systems to perform these functions.
- d. Insure that such systems are compatible with those being developed in other agencies for a community information handling system.

4. As this Project involves representation from the Directorates of Science and Technology and Support, I plan to achieve early coordination with them so that the Project may start to work promptly on 1 July when the positions and funds become available.

5. I will keep you advised as significant future developments occur.

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R. J. SMITH  
Deputy Director for Intelligence

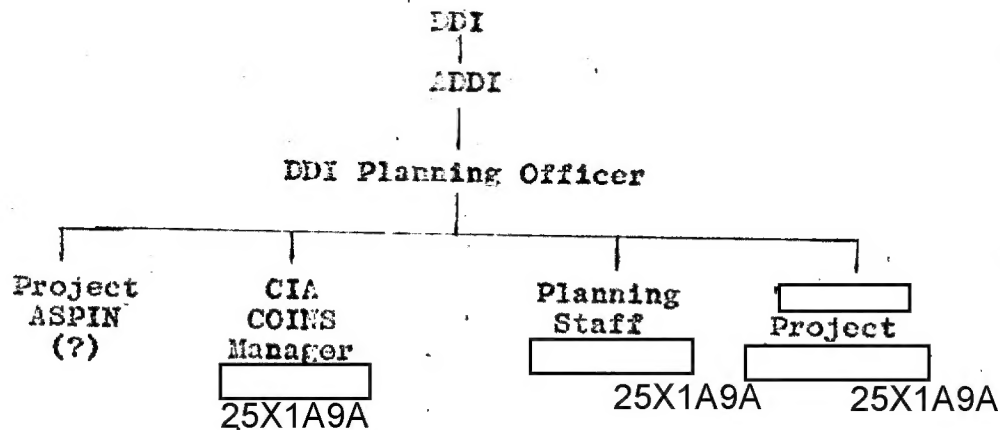
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6 March 1969

Project ASPIN

1. Organizational Arrangement



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2. Mission

Undertake a thorough systematic study of the information processing needs attendant to production of intelligence with the purpose of designing and developing automated systems that will most effectively serve those needs.

3. Functions

- a. Review all processes and techniques used in intelligence production and ascertain which of these are amenable to acceleration or improvement via automation.
- b. Study current reference and retrieval support activities as well as special computer applications supporting intelligence production to ascertain in what ways these may be made more effective and compatible.

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- c. Design a system or systems of automation that are directly attuned to assisting and improving intelligence production.
- d. Coordinate systems design and development with similar community activities being conducted by the IHC and/or other agencies.
- e. Arrange for and guide contractual support to the above as needed.

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12 March 1969

Space Requirements for the DD/I Planning Staff

1. Project ASPIN which will be established at the beginning of FY 1970, will have an authorized strength of [ ] positions. The project will be under the administrative control of the DD/I Planning Officer. As there are presently [ ] positions on the Planning Staff, [ ] position in the [ ] Project and [ ] Historical position, space for [ ] people is required. Ideally, this space should consist of contiguous areas for efficiency and economy of resources.



3. If it is not possible to provide space in contiguous areas for all the staff, minimum requirements would be for one area with suitable private office space for the DD/I Planning Officer and his Deputy and [ ] other senior professionals and a reception room for [ ] clericals; one area with suitable private office space for Chief, Project ASPIN and [ ] man offices to accommodate [ ] professionals and a reception room for [ ] clericals.

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